



Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
Ukrainian Catholic Church
(St. Mary's)
6719 Token Valley Road
Manassas, VA 20112
(703) – 791 – 6635
www.stmarysbyz.com
Reverend Alexander Dumenko Pastor
(301) – 421 – 1739
Sunday & Holy Days Divine Liturgies:
as scheduled in the Bulletin

DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE

JULY 19, 2020

Saturday July 18 7th Sunday AP - of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils

4:30PM – Confession. 5:00PM – Divine Liturgy For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
 & in particular for the health and blessings of newborn Joseph George Miller from Ann Woroniak

Saturday July 25 8th Sunday after Pentecost

4:30PM – Confession. 5:00PM – Divine Liturgy For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners
 & in particular for Dorothy Dowling from Lydia Bargiuk

+++++



Sunday of the Fathers of the First Six Ecumenical Councils

“Brethren, remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God; consider the outcome of their lives, and imitate their faith.”

Today we remember the Fathers of the first six Ecumenical Councils, those pastor-bishops who met in various gatherings from the fourth to the seventh centuries to combat heresies and formulate canons, or rules, to guide the Church in holy living. We honor these Fathers – indeed, we honor all the saints – because they are friends of Christ, because they show us Christ. The Fathers committed their lives, many of them as martyrs, to teaching clearly and faithfully the word of God. And so, we are called to consider carefully the outcome of their life and to imitate their faith. We are to follow their examples in never neglecting to do good and to share what we have, for such is the way of the fathers, the way of the saints, and such sacrifices are well-pleasing to God.

One of the reasons our Churches are filled with icons is to aid us in this task. In worship we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, a tremendous company of those who teach us in word and deed the way of Christ. Many of them were mistreated by the world. Like their Lord Christ, they met their end in dishonor, “dying outside the city,” far removed from fame or fortune. For here they had no lasting city, but rather they sought a city which is to come. As a community of faithful we are to remember them, we cling to their relics, we venerate their icons, because we know that they’re not simply dead and gone, buried and forgotten. We know that in Christ they live! Dwelling in the fullness of His presence, they are in a certain profound sense more alive than we are in our present struggles. And so we ask their prayers, that our lives may become more deeply rooted in the life and love of Christ, just as theirs are. We remember them this day and every day. In the words of St. John of Damascus, who wrote in the eighth century: “Let us carefully review the life of these men, and let us emulate their faith and love and hope and zeal and way of life, and endurance of sufferings and patience even to (the shedding of) blood, in order that we may be sharers with them in their crowns of glory.”

7TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Troparion and Kontakion:

Troparion (6): Angelic powers were upon Your tomb and the guards became like dead men; Mary stood before Your tomb seeking Your most pure body. You captured Hades without being overcome by it. You met the Virgin and granted life. O Lord risen from the dead, glory be to You!

Troparion (8): O Christ our God, You are most glorified, for You established our fathers as lights to all the earth. Through them You led us to the true faith. O most merciful Lord, glory be to You! **Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.**

Kontakion (8): The preaching of the apostles and the decisions of the Fathers have established the true faith of the Church, which she wears as the garment of truth, fashioned from the theology on high. She justly governs and glorifies the great mystery of worship.

Now and for ever and ever: Amen. **Kontakion (6):** With His life-giving hand, Christ our God, the Giver of life, raised all the dead from the murky abyss and bestowed resurrection upon humanity. He is for all, the Savior, the Resurrection and the Life, and the God of all.

Prokimenon (6): Save, Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance.

Verse: Unto You I will cry, O Lord, my God, lest You turn from me in silence.

Prokimenon (4): Blessed are You, and praiseworthy, O Lord, the God of our fathers, and glorious forever is Your name. **Verse:** In all You have done Your justice is apparent.

Epistle: Reading of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Romans (Rom 15,1-7)

Brethren: We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak and not to please ourselves; let each of us please our neighbor for the good, for building up. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you fall upon me." For whatever was written previously was written for our instruction, that by endurance and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to think in harmony with one another, in keeping with Christ Jesus, that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, then, as Christ welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Alleluia Verses: He who lives in the aid of the Most High, shall dwell under the protection of the God of heaven. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** **Verse (6):** He says to the Lord: You are my protector and my refuge, my God; in Whom I hope. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** **Verse:** The God of gods, the Lord has spoken and summoned the earth, from the rising of the sun to its setting. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.** **Verse:** Summon before Me my people who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Gospel: (Mt 9,27-35) At that time, as Jesus was passing by, two blind men followed Jesus, crying out, "Son of David, have pity on us!" When he entered the house, the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I can do this?" "Yes, Lord," they said to him. Then he touched their eyes and said, "Let it be done for you according to your faith." And their eyes were opened. Jesus warned them sternly, "See that no one knows about this." But they went out and spread word of him through all that land. As they were going out, a demoniac who could not speak was brought to him, and when the demon was driven out the mute person spoke. The crowds were amazed and said, "Nothing like this has even been seen in Israel." But the Pharisees said, "He drives out demons by the prince of demons." Jesus went around to all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and curing every disease and illness.

Communion Verse: Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest. Exult, you just, in the Lord; praise from the upright is fitting. **Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Food for Thought:

- ❖ *The Ten Commandments are not multiple choice.*
- ❖ *Joy is not the absence of suffering but the presence of God.*



Announcements

• **Dear Parishioners and Friends!** Beginning from August 2, 2020 we will resume our regular Sunday Liturgy at 8:30AM. According to your feedback, majority would like to go back to Sunday service. Please keep in mind that social distancing still applies. The faithful must wear a mask during the celebration of Liturgy, except for the brief moment while receiving Holy Communion. Sit in designated pews and respect social distance between others of 6 feet or more unless you are one family unit. Sanitize your hands as you arrive for the service. No handshakes, hugs, kissing of icons, etc. Stay home if you are sick or not feeling well. The obligation to attend Sunday Liturgy remains lifted until further notice, especially if you are part of a vulnerable population and/or have an underlying health condition. While these protocols are intrusive, they are necessary as they allow us to celebrate the Sacraments in person while doing our part to help stop the spread of coronavirus. May the Lord keep us protected and healthy and, well prepared for the gift of eternal life!

• **Church Donations** We sincerely thank our parishioners who mail their donations when they're unable to come to Divine Liturgy. If you are financially able, please continue to support our church. You may mail your donations to: PO Box 2735, Manassas, VA 20108. THANK YOU!

Collection: July 11 - \$525.

Sincere thanks for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!

Torrential Rains Cause Devastating Flooding in western Ukraine; Archieparchial Faithful Asked to Financially Assist in Flood Relief

Lviv-- Mother Nature sent torrential rains June 22-June 24 to western Ukraine and the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains which resulted in devastating and deadly flooding in the areas of Ivano-Frankivsk, Chernivtsi, Lviv, and Ternopil Over 300 villages and towns have suffered from flooding in these four western regions alone cutting off gas supplies for about 10,000 people. At least three people were killed in the Ivano-Frankivsk region as a result of the natural disaster.

Ukraine, suffering from the ongoing war in the east with Russia and coping with the worldwide coronavirus pandemic, is now confronted with providing emergency relief, including food, water and shelter for the thousands of homeless people who have experienced the loss of their houses and their livelihood.

Ukrainian Interior Minister Arsen Avakov says the floods in western Ukraine have completely destroyed 22,000 homesteads and flooded 5,000 houses. "I just want to mention a whopping figure – I want you to think about it: 22,000 household plots, vegetable gardens and orchards in four regions have been destroyed," he said in a

televised interview. Over 25,000 acres of agricultural land were underwater, destroying this year's crops.

At least 5,000 wells that provided drinking water were flooded. Because of inaccessibility due to the flooding, rescue workers of the State Emergency Service had to deliver fresh water and basic necessities to the residents by helicopter.

More than 450 miles of roads and 360 bridges have been damaged making all recovery efforts extremely difficult. Dams, bridges, dikes and roads had been washed away within the Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv and Chernivtsi areas. Gas and electric power lines have been damaged or destroyed in many areas.

For parts of western Ukraine the task ahead is becoming a matter of survival. Authorities will now have to fortify river banks and clean up river beds, build reservoirs in the mountains and protect the forests that remain to prevent the likelihood of future flooding.

Pope Francis Prays for Victims of Ukraine Floods

Following the Angelus prayer on Sunday, June 28 at the Vatican, Pope Francis appealed for prayers for the people of western Ukraine, suffering from the torrential rains and flooding. *“May they experience the Lord’s comfort and the care of their brothers and sisters,”* Pope Francis prayed.

Patriarch Sviatoslav Issues Worldwide Appeal for Flood Relief for Victims

In an appeal letter addressed to the faithful of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church and people of good will in Ukraine and throughout the world in response to the flooding in western Ukraine dated June 25, 2020, Patriarch Sviatoslav states: *“One of the elements which gives us and all that surrounds us life, and provides comfort in our homes, in these past days in areas of western Ukraine has been transformed into a veritable disaster that is being characterized as the worst flood over the past century. Over 300 inhabited towns and villages are under water. Key transportation arteries have been ruined, railways and bridges have been damaged, thousands of buildings are without power. But the greatest disaster – human casualties. And so, at the opening of this appeal I express my sincere condolences and assurances of my prayers for those who lost their loved ones.”*

Patriarch Sviatoslav continues in his letter, *“Every calamity that people experience in their lives is an opportunity to show Christian solidarity and social service, so that those who are suffering might receive assistance as soon as possible. Therefore, I call upon our church institutions: eparchies, religious communities, and especially our network of the*

charitable foundation 'Caritas,' to organize rescue for those who cry for help. I appeal to all communities of our Church in Ukraine and throughout the world, in the spirit of the Good Samaritan in the Gospel, to support those who are now deprived of their home and have come face-to-face with misfortune.

"I direct my request to the world community and to international humanitarian organizations: be open to respond to the needs of those who have become victims of the disaster that has afflicted regions in Western Ukraine."

Metropolitan Borys and Bishop Andriy Appeal to the Faithful of the Philadelphia Archeparchy

In an Appeal Letter to the Clergy, Religious and Faithful of the Philadelphia Archeparchy dated June 26, 2020, Metropolitan Borys and Bishop Andriy write, *"This is the time when our brothers and sisters in Ukraine need help. Patriarch Sviatoslav has sent a letter of appeal asking us, 'to show Christian solidarity and social service, so that those who are suffering might receive assistance as soon as possible.'"*

They further write, *"In response to our Patriarch's request and in the spirit of Christian love and fellowship, we are announcing a campaign to raise funds for people who lost everything due to the floods and now need food and basic necessities. We ask you, dear Fathers, that every parish have a special collection taken on Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28, and July 4-5. Please remit the funds as soon as possible. . . . Please act now since time is of the essence."*

July 2 Archeparchy Wires \$25,000 to Ivano-Frankivsk Archeparchy, Kolomyia and Chernivtsi eparchies.

The Philadelphia Archeparchy on July 2 wired the first tranche of \$25,000 to Ivano-Frankivsk Archeparchy, Kolomyia and Chernivtsi eparchies. As of that date, more than \$32,500 was raised through a fundraiser site on archieparchial Facebook page and mailed-in individual donations. The Archeparchy has decided to make the first distribution of funds to help the affected as soon as possible. Subsequent transfers will be made as funds are received. Pastors of the Philadelphia Archeparchy were also asked to take up collections on June 27-28 and July 4-5 in their parishes.

"The geography of donors to our Philadelphia campaign is wide and impressive. Not only the faithful of our archeparchy responded generously to our appeal, but so did people of goodwill from 21 states in the United States, Canada, France, Germany, Poland, Switzerland, Austria, Norway, Sweden, Great Britain, Belgium, Italy, and even Ukraine. More than 400 people made contributions to the Facebook fundraiser. About 90% of the

funds come from Ukrainians living abroad wishing to help their brothers and sisters who have been affected by the flood,” explains the Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia Andriy Rabyi.

Since it is difficult to respond to the particular needs of the victims remotely, the Archeparchy decided to transfer funds to the local eparchies. "Financial support allows us to be both quick and flexible. Affected regions are primarily agricultural. People do not have high income and depend mainly on their farms. They lost crops, their houses are partially destroyed. It is our Christian duty to help them in any way we can - spiritually and materially. They are in our prayers daily. And since we do not know their specific needs, we trust and rely on the competence of local church relief agency “Caritas” to provide help to those who need it most," emphasized Bishop Andriy.

He noted that the Archeparchy has a long history of helping Ukraine in crisis: there were collections to help military and chaplains, for purchase medical supplies and other needs of individual eparchies and parishes. Faithful of the Archeparchy and all the eparchies in the USA also supported the construction of the Resurrection Cathedral in Kyiv.

Besides the parish collections, individual donations are received daily by mail and on Facebook; the fundraising campaign is going strong. The Archeparchy will present financial reports on the funds collected and how it was distributed to help flood victims in Ukraine.

Your Help Is Needed and Appreciated

If you would like to make a donation, you may do so by making a check out to “Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Philadelphia” and send it to the chancery office of our Archeparchy located at 810 North Franklin Street, Philadelphia PA 19123. Please mark your check “Flood in Ukraine”; by leaving your donation in your parish collection basket, which will be sent to the chancery office along with other donations; you may donate on the Archeparchial FACEBOOK page, where a special fundraising campaign has been set up: <https://www.facebook.com/donate/331783401165290/10217614950741809/>

No donation is too small or too large. However, your donation will change someone’s life and God will repay a cheerful giver hundredfold. Please keep the people of the affected areas in your prayers! Thank you!